

**A NEW SPECIES OF ERIOPTERINE CRANE
FLY FROM ECUADOR (DIPTERA: TIPULIDAE)**

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ABSTRACT—*Erioptera* (*Erioptera*) *alanstonei* is described from Ecuador.

I am honored in being invited to contribute an article to the series of papers being prepared to commemorate the retirement of Dr. Alan Stone. He will long be remembered for his outstanding papers in the order Diptera and similarly for the kind advice and assistance extended to many students of flies. I express my gratitude to him for assistance on many occasions throughout the years.

For this paper I have selected an interesting species of the genus *Erioptera* from Ecuador and have given the name *alanstonei* to this fly. The types of the novelty are placed in the Alexander Collection of crane flies that will be deposited in the United States National Museum where Dr. Stone spent much of his life while studying the Diptera.

Erioptera (*Erioptera*) *alanstonei* Alexander, new species

General coloration of thorax obscure yellow, praescutum with 4 dark brown stripes, intermediate pair united with laterals at their anterior ends, pleura dark brown with broad silvery longitudinal stripe; knobs of halteres brown; legs yellow, femora with narrow blackened subterminal ring that is about 3 times as long as pale apex; wings almost uniformly brownish orange, variegated by yellow and slightly more darkened areas; veins pale, difficult to distinguish against the ground; abdomen dark brown; male hypopygium with 2 terminal dististyles, outer one deeply forked, inner style simple; phallosome with gonapophyses appearing as long narrow yellow blades, narrowed gradually to acute tips.

Male, length about 5–5.5 mm; wing 5–6 mm; antenna about 0.9–1.0 mm.

Female, length about 6 mm; wing 5 mm.

Rostrum, palpi and antennae black; flagellar verticils long, head brown.

Pronotum and pretergites yellow. Mesonotal praescutum obscure yellow with 4 conspicuous dark brown stripes, longer intermediate pair about $\frac{1}{2}$ broader than median ground line, united at anterior ends with shorter lateral stripe; scutal lobes pale with dark brown median and lateral areas; scutellum and postnotum obscure yellow. Pleura dark brown, with broad silvery longitudinal stripe extending from behind fore coxa to abdomen, dorsally broadly bordered by brownish black, ventrally with narrower dark brown line that involves dorsal sternopleurite, meron and metapleura, ventral sternopleurite light brownish gray; dorsopleural region broadly pale. Halteres with stem whitened, knob brown. Legs with fore coxae darkened, remaining coxae and all trochanters pale; femora yellow with single broad blackened subterminal ring that is about 3 times as extensive as pale apex; tibiae and tarsi yellow, outer segments of latter slightly darkened. Wings (fig. 1) almost uniformly brownish orange, prearcular and

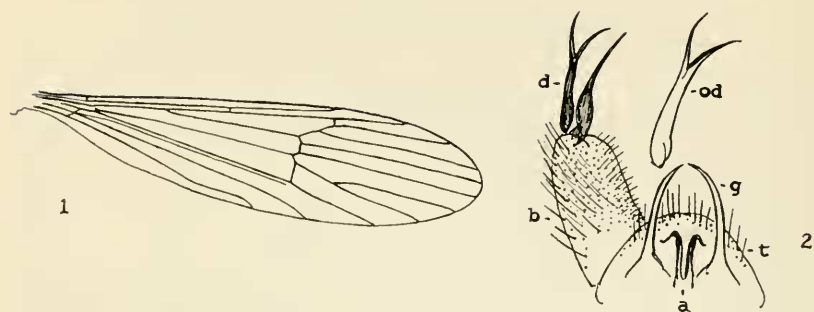


Fig. 1, 2, *Erioptera (Erioptera) alanstonei*. 1, venation. 2, male hypopygium. Symbols: a, aedeagus; b, basistyle; d, dististyles; g, gonapophysis; od, outer dististyle; t, 9th tergite.

basal costal fields light yellow; outer half of wing and base of cell *2nd A* slightly darker than remainder of ground, cell *R* somewhat more yellowed; vague more whitened areas at forks of veins *M* and *M*₃₊₄; stigmal region slightly more darkened; veins pale, difficult to distinguish against ground. Venation about as shown; vein *2nd A* only slightly sinuous.

Abdomen dark brown. Male hypopygium (fig. 2) with posterior border of tergum broadly convex, margin with long yellow setae. Dististyles, *d*, terminal; outer style, *od*, a long curved black spine, at near $\frac{2}{3}$ its length on outer face with similar long spine; inner style somewhat shorter, base expanded, thence produced into long, nearly straight spine. Phallosome, *p*, with apophyses, *g*, appearing as long narrow yellow blades that narrow gradually to acute tips. Aedeagus, *a*, with outer arms strongly recurved, divergent at outer ends.

Holotype, ♂, Ecuador, Azuay, South Cuenco, Cordillera Tinajillas, 3100 meters, March 18–19, 1965 (Luis E. Peña). Allotopotype, ♀. Paratopotypes, 4 ♂♂, with the types.

This attractive crane fly is named in honor of Dr. Alan Stone, outstanding student of the Diptera, particularly the Nematocera. It is most readily told from other regional species by the color pattern of the thorax, wings and legs, and in hypopygial structure. In the last character it is most similar to *Erioptera (Erioptera) dampfi* Alexander, of Mexico, differing in the coloration of the thorax and legs and in hypopygial details. It may be noted that in the wing and leg coloration, and in the general structure of the hypopygium, the present fly shows certain points of resemblance to species in the subgenus *Mesocypbona* Osten Sacken, similarly well represented in Tropical America, but the venation indicates that it is best referred to the typical subgenus.

In Alexander and Alexander (1970) 18 species were included in the subgenus *Erioptera* of which four are known to occur in Ecuador, *E. (E.) acucuspis* Alexander, *E. (E.) celestis* Alexander, *E. (E.) poly-*

tricha Alexander, and *E. (E.) urania* Alexander, all readily distinguished from the present fly by coloration and hypopygial details.

REFERENCE

- Alexander, C. P. and M. M. Alexander. 1970. Pt. 4. Family Tipulidae, in Catalogue of the Diptera of the Americas south of the United States. 259 pp. Museu de Zoologia, Univ. São Paulo.

BOOK REVIEW

Criddle-De-Diddle-Ensis. A Biographical History of the Criddles of Aweme, Manitoba, Pioneers of the 1880's. 1973. by Alma Criddle. 288 pp., 24 photos. Soft cover. Published by and available from Miss Alma Criddle, 19-303 Furby St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 2A8, Canada. \$8.00.

This book describes an exceptional pioneer family in Manitoba which included Norman Criddle (1875-1933; for obituary, list of publications, and portrait see *Canad. Entomol.* 65: 193-200, 1933), who was an outstanding entomologist as well as a notable general naturalist. To readers familiar with the literature of grasshopper biology and control, as well as the growth of information on Canadian insect distribution through *The Entomological Record* (*Ann. Repts. Entomol. Soc. Ontario*) for many years, the name of Norman Criddle will be remembered; they will recall a host of insect records from Aweme, where the family farm was located and where an entomological laboratory was established primarily for his use. Another locality often cited is Treesbank; these places are about 25 miles southeast of Brandon, Manitoba, near the North Dakota boundary.

The Criddle family came to Manitoba as homesteaders from England in 1882, the father not experienced as a farmer but rather a small merchant who had been educated partly at Heidelberg, Germany. The mother likewise was a well educated, cultured person, and their children were schooled primarily at home. Apart from the interest in Norman and other talented members of the family, the book is a warm personal account, largely drawn from diaries, of a closely knit family who enjoyed sports, music, the wildlife about them, and altogether a varied balanced life in spite of pioneer hardships. Miss Alma Criddle, a niece of the entomologist, is to be commended for a thoroughly fine work and valuable historical document.

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